

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-23 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1 and 7 are amended. Claim 1 is amended to correct informalities, and claim 7 is amended to recite similar features in varying scope to those recited in claims 1 and 2, and as such, no new matter is added. Support for the claims can be found throughout the specification, including the original claims and the drawings.

Entry of the amended claims is proper under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 since the amendments: (1) place the application in condition for allowance (for the reasons discussed herein); (2) do not raise any new issues requiring further search and/or consideration (since the amendments amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution without incorporating additional subject matter); (3) satisfy a requirement of form asserted in the previous Office Action; and/or (4) place the application in better form for appeal (if necessary). Entry is thus requested.

The Examiner is thanked for the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative in the personal interview conducted November 17, 2005. The substance of the interview, including any agreements reached, is reflected in the above amendments and the following remarks. Thus, withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph due to an informality. It is respectfully submitted that the amendments to claim 1 are responsive to the

Examiner's comments, and that claim 1 meets the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Accordingly, the rejection should be withdrawn.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-23 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Figures 1-3 of the present application in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,785,716 to Nobakht. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Independent claim 1 recites a method for accessing the Internet using an Internet TV, in which a function of accessing the Internet and a function of receiving a TV broadcast are combined, comprising, *inter alia*, requesting a new authentication number from the server if the authentication number is not available, registering a user in accordance with information collected by the server, receiving a new authentication number from the server, and providing information to the Internet TV. Independent claim 2 recites a method for accessing the Internet using an Internet TV, comprising, *inter alia*, determining an authentication number based on additional information collected by the portal server and transmitting the authentication number to the Internet TV for storage if the authentication number is not already available. Independent claim 7 recites a method for accessing the Internet using an Internet TV, comprising, *inter alia*, transmitting a new authentication number from the portal server to the Internet TV if the authentication number is not provided by the Internet TV. Figures 1-3 of the present application neither disclose nor suggest such features. Further, as discussed during the personal interview, Nobakht fails to overcome the deficiencies of Figures 1-3 of the present application.

Nobakht discloses a channel based Internet network 100, including a system server 110, Internet sites 120, and user terminals 130, user terminal 130A including a display 132 connected to a separate set top box 131 controlled by an input device 133. As shown in Figure 3A of Nobakht, in response to a user login, user request, and authorization by the server, the system displays channel tables 219 on the display 132 which provide website links to channels previously selected by a user.

In order to gain access to service when the set top box 131 detects the presence of a smart card (step 705), as shown in Figure 7 of Nobakht, the set top box 131 transmits a service request message to the server 110 (step 715), and the server 100 responds with a request for user identification (login) information (step 720). The set top box 131 accesses relevant account information and transmits it to the server (step 725), which checks the account information for validity (step 730). If the account is not valid, a customer service page is transmitted to the set top box 131 (step 760) and displayed on the display 132 (step 765). If the account is valid and the server determines that the user is an authorized resident user based on information from the smart card, then access is granted (step 745-1), allowing the resident user to store and manipulate a channel table (steps 800 and 900).

If the account is valid but the user is not a resident user (based on information in the smart card), the server 110 transmits a message to the set top box 131 asking the set top box 131 if the guest user is allowed (step 740). The set top box 131 then checks for flags set by the

owner of the set top box 131 which indicate whether or not access is allowed for the guest user (step 750). If the guest user is not allowed, the customer service page is displayed (step 765). If the guest user is allowed, then the server 110 grants access to the guest user, allowing the guest user to store and manipulate a channel table (steps 800 and 900).

Thus, in the event that a guest user is requesting access, the server 110 simply transmits a message to the set top box 131 asking if this access is allowed, and the set top box provides approval or denial of the guest's access request, which the Office Action asserts is comparable to transmitting a new authentication number as recited in independent claims 1, 2 and 7. However, the access provided to the guest user simply allows for use during the current session, and Nobakht neither discloses nor suggests that this includes any type of transmission and/or storage of an authentication number, either by the server 110 or the set top box 131, which could be used for immediate access during a later session, and without first proceeding through the entire login process once again in order to gain access. Further, when the necessary information cannot be provided, the user is simply sent to a customer service page, and Nobakht neither discloses nor suggests that, in any of the situations discussed above, the server transmits an authentication code to the set top box 131 and/or display 132 when the necessary information cannot be provided by the user terminal 130.

Still further, Nobakht's system relies on the capability of a separate set top box 131 to provide access to the information provided by the server for display on the display device 132.

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Nobakht neither discloses nor suggests a using an Internet TV, in which a function of accessing the Internet and a function of receiving a TV broadcast are combined, as recited in independent claims 1, 2 and 7.

For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 2 and 7 are allowable over the applied combination, and thus the rejection of independent claims 1, 2 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Figures 1-3 of the present application in view of Nobakht should be withdrawn. Dependent claims 3-6 and 8-23 are allowable at least for the reasons set forth above with respect to independent claims 1, 2 and 7, from which they respectively depend, as well as for their added features.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes that any additional changes would place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned, **JOANNA K. MASON**, at the telephone number listed below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this, concurrent and future replies, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 16-0607 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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